In the Claims:

1-14 Canceled

15-19 Canceled

20. (Currently amended) A switch comprising:

a plurality of core modules;

a plurality of core controllers operating concurrently and independently, one core controller for each of said core modules;

a plurality of egress modules each having a link from each of said core modules; and

a plurality of ingress modules each having;

an ingress controller;

a plurality of ingress ports each having an ingress buffer; and

a link directed to each of said core modules;

wherein said ingress controller is operable to

sort packets arriving at said ingress buffer into ingress queues, each ingress queue corresponding to one of said egress modules;

issue packet-transfer requests each specifying an egress module;

distribute the packet-transfer requests among said plurality of core modules for scheduling so that each of said core controllers receives a portion of said transfer requests; and

~~The packet switch as claimed in claim 18 wherein the ingress controller~~

periodically determine[s] ingress-queue occupancy for each respective egress module and send[s] a capacity-request vector to a selected one of the core